

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION MINUTES

July 23, 2014

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection met on July 23, 2014, beginning at 9:00 a.m. for a tour of Monsanto- Agracetus located at 8520 University Green, Middleton. The Board then held its official business meeting at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station, located at 8502 Mineral Point Road, Verona, beginning at 11:00 am. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by s. 19.84, Stats.

Call to Order

Board Chair Andy Diercks called the meeting to order at 10:48 a.m.

Members Present

Andy Diercks, Nicole Hansen, Dennis Badtke, John Koepke, and Doug Wolf were present. Mike Dummer, Miranda Leis, Dean Strauss, Mark Schleitwiler were absent.

Minutes

Motion

John Koepke made a motion, which was seconded by Dennis Badtke, to approve the June 12th Board teleconference minutes.

John Koepke made a motion, which was seconded by Nicole Hansen, to approve the May 14th Board meeting minutes.

Both motions were approved unanimously.

Welcome and Overview of West Madison Agricultural Research Station

Tom Wright, superintendent of the West Madison Agricultural Research Station, welcomed the DATCP board to the facility. The research station first began in 1988 and considers itself an “urban agricultural venue.” Its urban location makes the west Madison facility a good place for research and outreach projects with an urban focus. The 572 acre research station boasts a high capacity irrigation system providing adequate moisture for research plots, a state-of-the-art chemical management facility which allows for safe mixing, handling, and storage of agricultural chemicals and pesticide equipment, a dryer facility used for preparing research samples, a full service mechanical shop used to maintain tractors, vehicles and other small engines, and a

headquarter building with a large meeting room for classes, college staff and agricultural groups. Although no livestock are housed at the research station, the station plays a key role in maintaining the large animal facilities on the Madison campus. The station produces most of the feed and bedding used for the campus herds. Manure from the campus herds is composted at the station and then used in the campus greenhouses, flowerbeds, and to fertilize fields at the station. The station is currently researching breeding field crop varieties, testing prototypes of field equipment, material handling, and storage systems, improving vegetables, fruit and ornamentals, conducting soil related research and pest management.

The DATCP Board thanked the West Madison Agricultural Research Station for allowing them to utilize their facility.

Public Appearances

Jordan Lamb, representing the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA), appeared in support of the final draft rule of ATCP 55 relating to drug residue in meat and meat food products. The WVMA supports of a safe and abundant food supply that is raised in a way that enhances public health and animal well-being. While federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved pharmaceuticals are necessary in animal treatment to prevent disease, preventing drug residues is also a critical component to responsible animal care and safe food production. Veterinarians play a key role in helping prevent violations and ensuring appropriate use of pharmaceuticals in food animals. The WVMA is committed to working with DATCP and feels that the revisions made in the rule will help maintain the public confidence in Wisconsin's food products.

Brad Legried, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Dairy Products Association, came before the board in support of ATCP 161, the Wisconsin Dairy Processor Grant Program. The Dairy Products Association represents primarily larger dairy processors and accounts for 70% of the dairy products marketed within the state. In recent years, the producer, processor and livestock grant programs have been the key in revitalizing Wisconsin's dairy industry. The Dairy Products Association is pleased to see a grant program that is fair and equitable to all processors, regardless of their size.

ATCP 136-Mobile Air Conditioners; Reclaiming or Recycling Refrigerant (Scope Statement)

Judy Cardin, Director of Bureau of Weights and Measure within the Division of Trade & Consumer Protection, presented the ATCP 136 scope statement.

This proposed rule would modify current trade and consumer protection rules related to mobile air conditioners. Currently, ch. ATCP 136, Wis. Adm. Code., requires businesses that install, repair or service mobile air conditioners to pay an annual registration fee and obtain an annual registration certificate from the department. The rule also requires businesses to register their

mobile air service technicians and for those technicians to successfully complete a department-approved training course or satisfy other training requirements.

2013 Act 312 eliminated the annual registration fee and modified the technician training requirements to harmonize state policy with federal requirements and reduce the overall regulatory burden on this industry. The statute also eliminated DATCP's authority to establish requirements for mobile air conditioner technician training. This rulemaking will revise the existing rule to implement these statutory changes. The department will also remove references to obsolete Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) licensing requirements and make other minor modifications needed to ensure uniformity between the statute and rule.

Motion

John Koepke made a motion, which was seconded by Nicole Hansen, to approve the scope statement of ATCP 136. Motion approved unanimously.

ATCP 127-Direct Marketing; No Call List (Hearing Draft)

Michelle Reinen, Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection, asked the board to approve the ATCP 127 hearing draft relating to direct marketing and the no call list.

Section 100.52, Stats. established the Wisconsin no call program in 2001. This law required the department to create a no call list that prohibited telephone solicitors from calling residential customers on the list. Residential customers who did not want to receive unsolicited commercial calls provided their telephone number and zip code to DATCP every two years to remain on the non-solicitation list.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) maintains a federal do-not-call registry. Under the federal do-not-call program, Wisconsin residents have been able to register their numbers on that list permanently.

The Wisconsin no call law was most recently amended by 2013 Act 234, which eliminated the separate, DATCP-maintained Wisconsin no call list. As of August 1, 2014, Wisconsin residents who do not want to receive unsolicited telephone calls or texts from telemarketers will now only sign up on the FTC do-not-call registry without any need to re-register, and all telephone numbers on the existing Wisconsin no call list will be transferred to that registry. Under the new state law, telephone solicitors must register with the FTC to obtain the Wisconsin portion of the federal do-not-call registry ("state do-not-call registry"). Solicitors must also continue to register with DATCP and DATCP will continue to administer and enforce the Wisconsin no call law.

This rule does all of the following:

- Establishes updated registration requirements for telephone solicitors.
- Repeals portions of the rule made obsolete under the statute change.
- Updates recordkeeping requirements.

- Interprets Wisconsin's consent requirement to harmonize with federal requirements.
- Makes other minor updates and changes including corrections to mistaken citations.

Motion

Dennis Badtke made a motion, which was seconded by Doug Wolf, to approve the ATCP 127 hearing draft. Motion approved unanimously.

ATCP 127-Direct Marketing; No Call List (Emergency Rule)

Michelle Reinen, Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection, presented the ATCP 127 emergency rule relating to direct marketing and the no call list.

The Wisconsin no call law was most recently amended by 2013 Act 234, which eliminated the separate, DATCP-maintained Wisconsin no call list. As of August 1, 2014, Wisconsin residents who do not want to receive unsolicited telephone calls or texts from telemarketers will now only sign up on the FTC do-not-call registry without any need to re-register, and all telephone numbers on the existing Wisconsin no call list will be transferred to that registry. Under the new state law, telephone solicitors must register with the FTC to obtain the Wisconsin portion of the federal do-not-call registry ("state do-not-call registry"). Solicitors must also continue to register with DATCP and DATCP will continue to administer and enforce the Wisconsin no call law.

This emergency rule will take effect on August 1, 2014, and will remain in effect until December 29, 2014. The department can then apply for two 60 day extensions to the rule for a total of 270 days. If granted, the emergency rule could be extended until April 28, 2015.

Division of Animal Health Report

Dr. Paul McGraw, State Veterinarian and the Division Administrator of the Division of Animal Health, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board, which included an update on the novel swine enteric coronavirus, the implementation of the federal traceability rule, emergency preparedness activities and a discussion on the reverse zoonosis of bovine tuberculosis.

Effective June 5, 2014, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack declared the Novel Swine Enteric Coronavirus reportable. This federal order requires mandatory reporting of confirmed occurrences of PEDV, PDCoV, or other novel swine enteric coronaviruses. PEDV was first reported in May of 2013 and has since spread to thirty states, killing an estimated seven million baby pigs.

In early 2013, USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services released the Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) Final Rule. The goal of ADT is to improve the traceability of animals involved in a disease outbreak. Two implications of the new rule for veterinarians are the need to issue

interstate certificates of veterinary inspection (CVI) and to use an ear-tagging or identification process for most species. Livestock producers affected the most by the rule were those with cattle. Wisconsin has implemented the rule into its state code and DATCP is working with its veterinarians closely to educate them on the requirements. There has been good compliance in the state so far.

The Secure Milk Supply exercise, focusing on how to move milk in the midst of an outbreak, was held in May in Appleton and Madison with more than 100 participants from industry, government, and stakeholder groups. Planning continues for the National Veterinary Stockpile scheduled for January of 2015. The Veterinary Stockpile is a USDA resource that may be used in the event of an emergency to send out counter measures such as vaccines and personal protective equipment. This year, the exercise will focus on keeping vaccines at a standard temperature in very cold climates.

Recently, a western state confirmed a case of reverse zoonosis of bovine tuberculosis (TB) involving an immigrant dairy worker who transmitted TB to the cattle herd he was tending. This is a very rare occurrence but something that DATCP is working on educating dairy farmers and dairy associations of. To reduce the chances of this happening in Wisconsin, DATCP is encouraging dairy farmers to test their employees for TB to ensure no transfer could happen in the future.

ATCP 141- Cherry Marketing Order (Hearing Draft)

Jen Pino Gallagher, Bureau Director of the agricultural business development area within the Division of Agricultural Development, presented the hearing draft for ATCP 141 relating to the Cherry Marketing Order.

This rule changes the cherry marketing board from a 7 member board, with two districts each represented by 3 board members plus one at large member, to a 5 member board with all members elected at large.

In recent years, the number of cherry growers has decreased so that currently there are 33 growers. The number of growers in each district has also changed. With the number of growers down to 33, it became difficult to consistently elect 7 members willing to serve on the Cherry Board. The Board requested the proposed amendment in order to have representation appropriate to the size of the industry. The Board also requested that the elections be at large rather than by district so that the representation would remain equitable regardless of changes to the location of producers.

Motion

Nicole Hansen made a motion, which was seconded by Doug Wolf, to approve the ATCP 141 hearing draft. Motion approved unanimously.

ATCP 161- Grow Wisconsin Dairy Processor Grant and Loan Program (Final Draft)

Jen Pino Gallagher, Bureau Director of the agricultural business development area within the Division of Agricultural Development, presented the final draft of ATCP 161.62 and the “Grow Wisconsin Dairy Processor Grant Program.”

The “dairy processor” grant program is designed to promote the growth of the dairy industry by providing grants to dairy processors. The biennial budget act appropriated \$200,000 in grant funding for each year of the FY 2013-15 fiscal biennium. This proposed rule spells out grant procedures and criteria. Under this proposed rule, the “dairy processor” grant program will support projects proposed by dairy processors intended to expand and diversify the dairy industry.

DATCP held one public hearing on April 18, 2014, at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Following the public hearing, the hearing record remained open until May 2, 2014 for additional written comments. DATCP received one comment stating support for the proposed rule. The proposed rule was modified slightly to incorporate minor editorial changes suggested by the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse.

Motion

John Koepke made a motion, seconded by Dennis Badtke, to approve the final draft rule of ATCP 161.62. Motion approved unanimously.

Alice in Dairyland 2014-2015 Report

Zoey Brooks provided an update to the board of her activities since being named the 67th Alice in Dairyland earlier this year in May.

A native to Waupaca, Zoey grew up as a member of the sixth generation on her family’s dairy and grain farm. She graduated this year from the University of Wisconsin Madison with a degree in animal science. She served as the Dane County Farm Bureau’s Ag in the Classroom coordinator and as a Director At-Large for her Collegiate Farm Bureau. She has held internships with the Food Export Association of the Midwest and with UW-Extension. Zoey also gained experience working with the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association.

Alice is Wisconsin’s Agricultural Ambassador and her mission is to support agricultural business by educating the general public about the vital role agriculture plays in the economy, environment and quality of life in Wisconsin. Throughout the year, Alice participates in industry trainings and plans three campaigns to share that knowledge with consumer through the media.

This year, Alice has focused on two key messages that reflect the goals and work plan of DATCP:

- Agriculture is a diverse industry vital to Wisconsin's economic development, generating a \$59.16 billion annual impact.
- Buying Wisconsin grown and produced products supports Wisconsin agriculture and local farmers, producers, and communities.

ATCP 55- Meat and Meat Food Products (Drug Residue) (Final Draft)

Steve Ingham, Division Administrator, and Cindy Klug, Meat Safety and Inspection Bureau Director, from the Division of Food Safety presented the final draft rule of ATCP 55 relating to drug residue in meat and meat food products.

The proposed rule specifies corrective actions that must be required by state-licensed meat establishments from certain livestock producers before the establishment operator accepts animals from the producer for slaughter. The required corrective actions apply to livestock producers who, on two or more occasions during a calendar year, submit animals testing positive for any illegal drug residue to be slaughtered at a state- or federally inspected meat establishment.

DATCP held three hearings in Madison, Eau Claire, and Green Bay on April 22nd, 23rd, and 25th respectively. Following the public hearings, the hearing record remained open until May 9, 2014 for additional written comments. One person representing the Cooperative Network attended the hearings. The Cooperative Network did not take a position on the proposal. A written comment was received from the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association expressing support for the rule and suggesting language changes to clarify rule requirements.

The Department incorporated all of the changes suggested by the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse. Both the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse and the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) suggested revisions to the language defining adulteration. In response to the WVMA comments DATCP added, by reference, the USDA definition of "adulterated" and separated the prohibition against presenting adulterated animals for slaughter and the corrective action required for producers who are on the USDA Residue Repeat Violators List. The list of information required from the producer when he/she presents a diseased or injured for slaughter was also broadened. The additional language reflects the complexity of FDA requirements for drug withdrawal times before slaughter. In response to a suggestion from the WVMA that the course required as a corrective action after repeat drug residue violations be completed within 180 days of the producer's name appearing on the list, DATCP modified the language to require that the course be started within 30 days after the producer's name appeared on the list, and be completed within 180 days after being started. Also adopted was a WVMA suggestion to require that all drugs used to treat a diseased or injured animal presented for slaughter be certified either as administered as prescribed by a licensed veterinarian or as recommended on the manufacturer's label (for over-the-counter medications).

Motion

Doug Wolf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Badtke, to approve the final draft rule of ATCP 55. Motion approved unanimously.

Cooperative Interstate Meat Shipment Report

Steve Ingham, Division Administrator, and Cindy Klug, Meat Safety and Inspection Bureau Director, from the Division of Food Safety presented a report on the Cooperative Interstate Meat Shipment (CIS) Program for meat establishments.

The CIS program began in 2012 and allows selected state-licensed meat establishments to sell designated products in interstate commerce. The process by which an establishment applies for and is accepted into the CIS program involves 10 steps, most of which are required by the USDA. There are currently two establishments operating under the CIS program with roughly ten more establishments' steps away from being accepted into the program. The report reviewed the multi-step process for an establishment moving from application to acceptance. The Division of Food Safety will continue to work with meat establishment operators interested in the CIS program.

ATCP 20, 21, 29, 30, 33, 35, 40, 42, 49, 50, 71, 90, 92, 94, 105, 123, 127, 161 Technical Rule Changes (Hearing Draft)

David Meany, Chief Legal Counsel from the Office of the Secretary, presented a hearing draft containing technical rule changes to ATCP 20, 21, 29, 30, 33, 35, 40, 42, 49, 50, 71, 90, 92, 94, 105, 123, 127, and 161. Many of the changes proposed are necessary to bring certain rules in line with recent statutory changes. Other changes involve correcting minor grammatical errors or citing technical references that have been updated.

Motion

John Koepke made a motion, seconded by Nicole Hansen, to approve the hearing draft of ATCP 20, 21, 29, 30, 33, 35, 40, 42, 49, 50, 71, 90, 92, 94, 105, 123, 127, and 161. Motion approved unanimously.

Agriculture Land Sales Discussion- Department of Revenue

Scott Shields, Director of Technical and Assessment Services from the Department of Revenue, presented two handouts to the Board regarding property sales data and agriculture land property assessment. The board previously requested more information on property data collection and assessment determinations when they reviewed the 2012 Census of Agriculture report numbers.

Any time real estate is sold, state law requires the filing of a Real Estate Transfer Return (RETR) with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. A RETR can be completed by the owner, title company, realtor, or attorney. Sales data on the RETR provides property value information used by all levels of government. Private financial institutions and realty companies also use this information for several purposes, including bank appraisals. DOR audits RETRs to make sure the correct fee is paid and the correct exemptions are applied. DOR uses the sales data to determine equalized values and provides the information online. This information is available in Excel or through the Department of Revenue online search function.

Regarding the assessment process, all taxable property in Wisconsin is assessed annually to establish a value. Municipal assessors use market value, as well as an inspection of the property to complete the assessment. A value is assigned after these considerations are made. Under state law, a municipal assessor classifies all taxable real estate into two categories: full value, which includes land and improvement or land only, and use value, which is typically used for agriculture land only. Agriculture land must be “devoted primarily to agricultural use” according to state law. This includes such agricultural uses such as tilled land devoted to crop production, pastured land for livestock, or land enrolled in certain conservation programs. Additional information can be found within the *Agricultural Assessment Guide for Wisconsin Property Owners* on the Department of Revenue website.

Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Services (WASS) Report

Greg Bussler, State Statistician, updated the Board on the following:

- June Acreage Report
 - As of June 1st, Wisconsin Farmers indicated they intend to plant or harvest:
 - 4.2 million acres of corn.
 - 3.15 million acres of grain.
 - 1.8 million acres of soybean.
 - 1.51 million acres of hay.
 - US Farmers as a whole indicated they intend to plant or harvest:
 - 91.6 million acres of corn.
 - 83.8 million acres of grain.
 - 84.8 million acres of soybean.
- Production Report
 - In June, 2.32 billion pounds of milk were produced in Wisconsin.
 - Milk production in 23 major states totaled 16.2 billion pounds.
 - As of July 1st, Wisconsin had 10,254 milk cow herds, down 549 herds since July 2013.
 - Maple syrup production was at 200,000 gallons. WI ranked 4th for gallons produced.
- Price Report:
 - June price of \$23.50 per hundredweight of milk.
 - Corn sold for \$4.30 per bushel.
 - Soybeans sold for \$14.20 per bushel.

- Alfalfa hay sold for \$185 per ton down \$90 per ton since last June.
- Crop Progress Report/Concerns:
 - Corn is 51% good with corn growing days ahead of normal slightly.
 - Soybeans are 51% good with 46% bloomed so far.
 - Second cutting of hay is 66% complete.
 - Top soil moisture 75% adequate.
- August Crop Production Report
 - Will be released Tuesday, Aug 12th
 - First forecast of season for corn and soybean yields.
- New Releases
 - Congressional District Profiles will be released July 25th
 - State and county profiles are available online for census data.
 - American Indian Agricultural Census data will be released August 25th
- Upcoming Fall Surveys
 - County agricultural practices survey.
 - Small Grains data collected in September and October.
 - Row Crop data collected in October and November.
 - Vegetable chemical use survey.
 - Tenure Ownership and Transition of Agriculture Land (TOTAL) follow on survey.
- 2017 Census of Agriculture
 - NASS inviting public comments thru August 4th.
 - Comments may be submitted at agcensus.usda.gov.
 - Allows public to suggest questions to add or be removed from future survey.

Agrichemical Management Bureau (Report)

Lori Bowman, Bureau Director and Duane Klein, Agency Liaison, within the Division of Agricultural Resource Management presented a PowerPoint detailing the bureau's on-going process evaluation and IT Systems upgrade project. The Division recently hired a contractor to be the project manager for this specific IT project along with two contractors serving as business analysts. Several tools were highlighted that the Division has been using to document their program area processes including a component matrix, alignment chart and wiki site.

The Division first began by outlining their "current state" within their multiple programs with the intent of creating a "future state" in which the Division and bureau itself could standardize similar processes and create efficiencies, benefiting not only the staff involved but industry as well.

Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) Report

Coreen Fallat, Program Manager for the Agricultural Enterprise Areas Program, presented five AEA petitions submitted during the 2014 petition cycle. Four new AEA's are being recommended, with the modification of an existing AEA to take effect January 1, 2015.

To be designated as an AEA, a department order must come from our Agency and notification of the order must be posted in the state newspaper. One of the recommended AEA's is currently in the process of updating their county's farmland preservation plan to ensure eligibility with program requirements. Designation orders for that AEA will be completed following plan certification, anticipated to occur in October or November.

The recommended AEA's are as follows:

- Friends in Agriculture, Clark County
- Greenville Greenbelt, Outagamie County
- The Headwaters of Southeast Monroe County, Monroe County
- West Point, Columbia County
- Heart of America's Dairyland, Clark and Marathon Counties (Modification of existing AEA)

Following designation, there will be 29 AEA's in the state totaling nearly 940,000 acres, located in 22 counties, 85 towns and the Bad River Reservation. The state currently has authority to designate up to 2 million acres as AEA's.

Board Member Reports

Dennis Badtke- Badgerland Financial is seeing a slowing in loan growth for the first time in many years. There is plenty of money to loan but not as much interest in borrowing currently. The land study focusing on the 32 southern counties of the state has been completed. Cropland has shown to be generally stable with a slight increase. Recreation land is holding stable while irrigation land sales have sky rocketed. Specialty land has been variable depending on the economics.

Andy Diercks- The crops in the Central Sands area are looking good considering the dry weather lately and the late spring planting. Andy is looking forward to some cooler weather which is more beneficial for potatoes. On behalf of the DATCP Board, Andy thanked Monsanto for the tour earlier in the morning and the West Madison Agricultural Research Station for use of their facilities.

Nicole Hansen- The Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association is looking forward to their Summer Field Days coming up August 6th at Adams 73 in Bancroft. The cranberry industry is waiting for the USDA Secretary Vilsack to review the cranberry marketing order that they have put forth which would help regulate cranberry volume and production. The cranberries have

begun to set with their bloom taking place over last 4 weeks. Roughly 140 million honeybees will do their part to help pollinate the buds next.

John Koepke- It's wheat harvesting time on the home front currently. With the late spring, John focused on getting his planting done in 4 to 5 days once the ground dried out, which meant for some long days. This experience emphasized the need for additional skilled labor in the agriculture field. John stressed the importance of cultivating our youth and partnering with high schools or other youth organizations to increase awareness and education of the many agriculture or science based careers available. John mentioned that he really enjoys the county overviews he sees highlighted in the Illinois AgriNews and hopes this is something that Wisconsin could move toward to spread the word about our diverse agriculture careers and industries.

Secretary's Report

The Wisconsin Education and Economic Development Council worked with the agribusiness council to identify 400 very distinct job avenues in agriculture. With the smaller number of farm families, the pool of employee resources is smaller but the opportunities are more vast. The agriculture industry needs to stay on the forefront of raising the awareness of the many diverse job opportunities that are available and at the same time, reach out to the pools of youth that have never been contacted before as they also have key abilities and knowledge that can benefit the agriculture industry.

The Department is continuing to monitor the Emerald Ash Borer movement and will be checking traps in the near future with more possible areas of quarantine likely to arise.

Recently the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), during an inspection of cheese making operation in New York, identified that utilizing wooden boards to age cheese would no longer be seen as a viable tool. The department, along with many others, responded with letters and objections to the statement. The FDA subsequently issued a statement clarifying that they are not banning or prohibiting the long-standing practice of using wood shelving in artisanal cheese.

The Secretary and Chief Legal Counsel David Meany recently visited with a legislator to discuss a request for the Agency to create flowcharts for each of their programs to better assist customers and create a smoother relationship with constituents. While flow charts can be a very useful tool in certain situations, they are not always the best option. The Secretary is currently directing the Department and each of its programs to exhibit clear consistency with its messages and enforcement actions and has stressed the importance of the clarity of the department's rules.

The summer has been filled with county fairs and many dairy breakfasts. The Secretary recently visited the Sauk County Fair, the Jefferson County fair, the Lodi County Fair and the Marquette County Fair, with many more visits upcoming.

On Monday, June 30th, the Secretary spoke at the National Guernsey Convention at the Lacrosse County Fairgrounds. He spoke to them on the future of agriculture, exports and job opportunities.

The Department, in coordination with the Departments of Agriculture in Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, and Iowa, submitted a pre-proposal for conservation funding in the Mississippi River Basin under the USDA- Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The NRCS will select pre-proposals by July 28th with full proposals due September 26th. The NRCS will then make its final selections by October 27th.

Food Safety staff responded to businesses in Vernon County and Platteville after the heavy rains and tornadoes in late June. Several of the state's licensed food businesses needed the division's assistance with food disposal orders and general reviews for restarting of their operations. No state-inspected meat establishments were affected.

On June 13th, DATCP issued a proposed decision in a recovery proceeding initiated as a result of the failure by Allen's, Inc. to pay for vegetables purchased from Wisconsin growers. DATCP is proposing to approve 19 of 22 claims totaling almost \$8.8 million, of which \$6.75 million would be covered by the Agricultural Producer Security Fund. So far, \$6.12 million has been paid out as of last week.

The Secretary gave kudos to the Sauk Prairie high school FFA as they recently went out of their way to provide a great experience for the Secretary's grandson who wanted to show a calf at the fair. The Secretary was very impressed with their kindness and selflessness and is encouraged to see this type of behavior in Wisconsin's youth programs.

Future Schedule and Agenda Items

The Board is scheduled to meet September 17th in Madison. Nicole Hansen requested an updated on the Waters of the US proposed rule and the nitrogen and phosphorus issue. The Food Safety Modernization Act will also be reported on if there are any updates to give.

Adjournment

By unanimous consent, the Board adjourned at approximately 3:51pm

Andy Diercks, Board Chair

Miranda Leis, Secretary